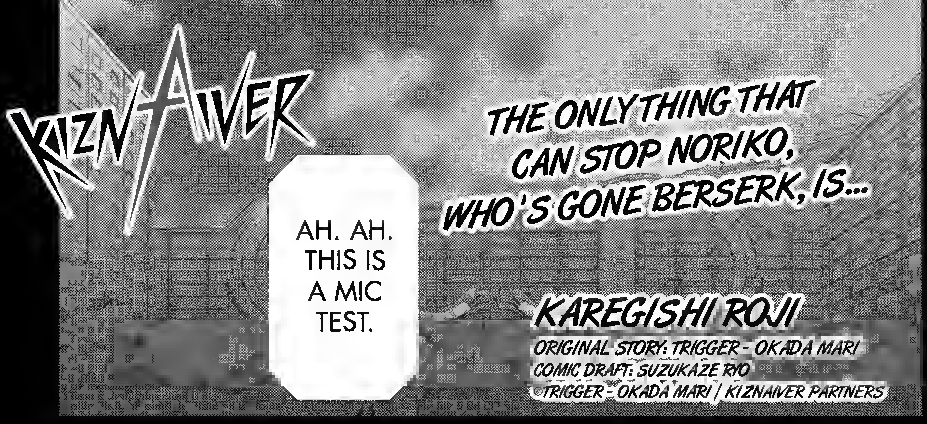
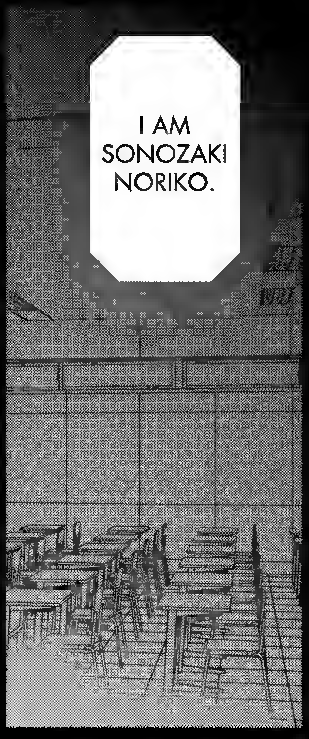
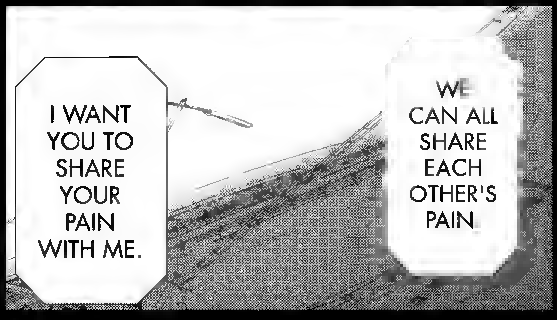
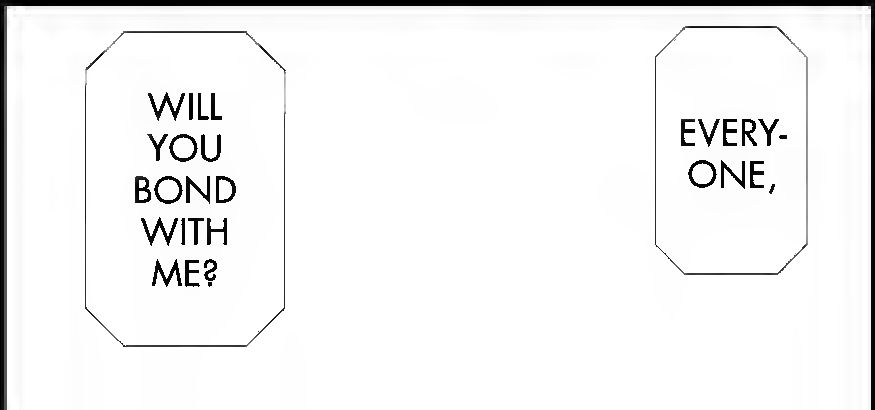

KIZNAIVER
AH. AH. THIS IS A MIC TEST.
THE ONLY THING THAT CAN STOP NORIKO, WHO'S GONE BERSERK, IS...
KAREGISHI ROJI
ORIGINAL STORY: TRIGGER - OKADA MARI
COMIC DRAFT: SUZUKAZE RYO
TRIGGER - OKADA MARI / KIZNAIVER PARTNERS

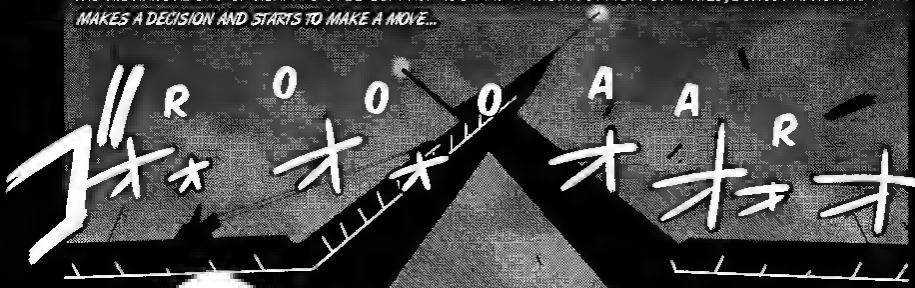
BEARING THAT PAIN ALONE IS A TERRIBLY SAD THING, AND IT'S ALSO A MISTAKE.
I'M SURE YOU ALL LIVE EACH DAY WITH PAIN AND SUFFERING.


I AM SONOZAKI NORIKO.


I WANT YOU TO SHARE YOUR PAIN WITH ME.
WE CAN ALL SHARE EACH OTHER'S PAIN.


WILL YOU BOND WITH ME?
EVERY-ONE,

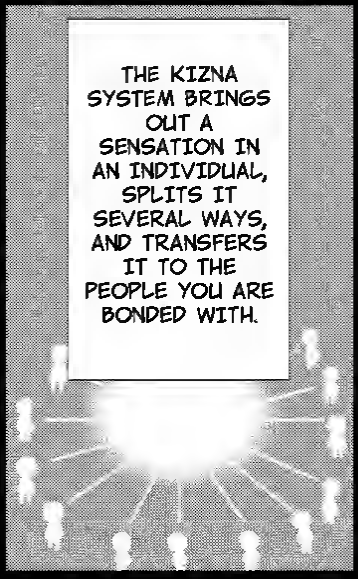
STORY UP TO NOW: AGATA KATSUHIRA AND THE OTHERS GET TRAPPED IN THEIR SCHOOL DUE TO A TYPHOON AND, DUE TO THE KIZNA SYSTEM, THEIR INNER FEELINGS END UP COMING TO LIGHT. FINDING OUT WHAT EVERYONE TRULY FEELS, THE KIZNAIVERS END UP HURT AND PASS OUT FROM THE PAIN IN THEIR HEARTS. MEANWHILE, SONOZAKI NORIKO MAKES A DECISION AND STARTS TO MAKE A MOVE...

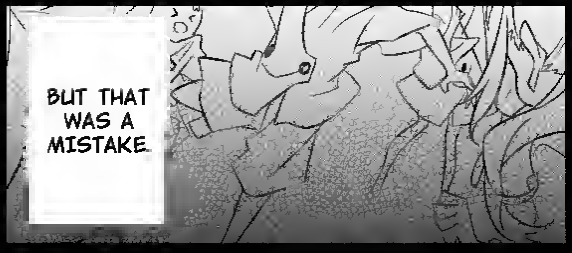


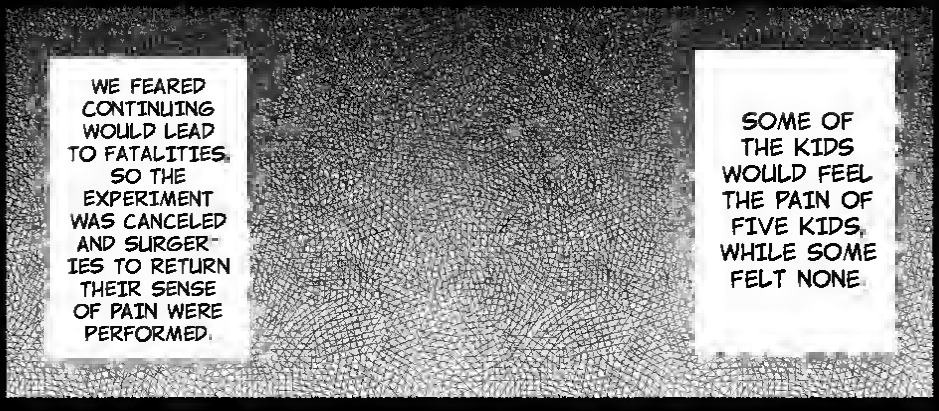
URUSHII.
AND ABOUT NORI-CHAN...
PLEASE TELL US WHAT HAPPENED TWELVE YEARS AGO.
BUT ISN'T THAT CAUSING A COMMO-TION?
THAT'S ACTUALLY GOOD NEWS.

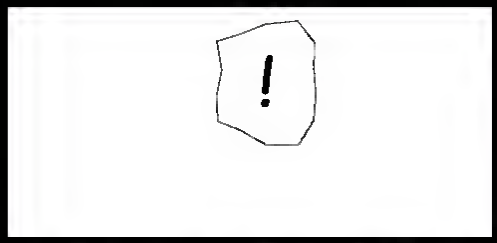
THE KIZNA PROJECT FROM TWELVE YEARS AGO...
THE TEST SUBJECTS INVOLVED WERE KATSUHIRA-KUN AND NORI-CHAN.

THAT'S WHY WE CONNECTED A LOT OF KIDS.


THE KIZNA SYSTEM BRINGS OUT A SENSATION IN AN INDIVIDUAL, SPLITS IT SEVERAL WAYS, AND TRANSFERS IT TO THE PEOPLE YOU ARE BONDED WITH.


BUT THAT WAS A MISTAKE.


WE FEARED CONTINUING WOULD LEAD TO FATALITIES, SO THE EXPERIMENT WAS CANCELED AND SURGERIES TO RETURN THEIR SENSE OF PAIN WERE PERFORMED.
SOME OF THE KIDS WOULD FEEL THE PAIN OF FIVE KIDS, WHILE SOME FELT NONE.


!

NORI-CHAN HAD TAKEN ON EVERY-ONE ELSE'S PAIN.

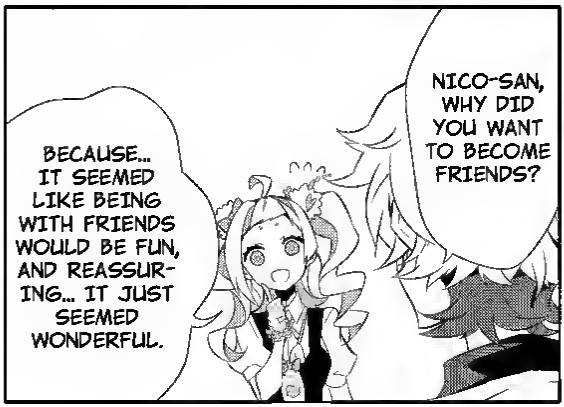
EVER SINCE THEN, NORI-CHAN HAS BEEN RECEIVING TREATMENTS TO SHUT DOWN ALL SENSATIONS.

HOWEVER, ONE OF THE GIRLS HAD THE OTHER CHILDREN'S PAIN STRONGLY ATTACHED TO HER.
THE PAIN REMAINED ONLY IN NORI-CHAN.

EVER SINCE THAT DAY...
WE RELEASED THE CHILDREN WHO WERE ABLE TO KEEP AT LEAST A MODICUM OF THEIR SENSES, LIKE KATSUHIRA-KUN.
ON THE OTHER HAND, MANY OF THE OTHER TEST SUBJECTS ENDED UP LOSING THEIR SENSE OF PAIN AND EMOTIONS.
MY PAIN IS STILL
WITH NORI-CHAN?
NORI-CHAN BELIEVES THAT IF SHE'S ABLE TO PROVIDE RESULTS, THE EXPERIMENT CAN CONTINUE.
BUT IF NORI-CHAN CONNECTS WITH ANYONE ELSE, SHE'S GOING TO BREAK.
DESPITE LIVING A VERY LONELY CHILDHOOD,
NORI-CHAN LEARNED HOW AMAZING CONNECTING WITH OTHERS THROUGH THE KIZNA SYSTEM,
AND THE JOY OF UNDERSTANDING OTHERS IS.

BEARING THAT PAIN ALONE IS A TERRIBLY SAD THING, AND IT'S ALSO A MISTAKE.
I'M SURE YOU ALL LIVE EACH DAY WITH PAIN AND SUFFERING.
I WANT YOU TO SHARE YOUR PAIN WITH ME.
WE CAN ALL SHARE EACH OTHER'S PAIN.
I'VE DETERMINED THAT THEY ARE UNNEEDED RIGHT NOW.
IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW DAYS SINCE THEY WERE RELEASED FROM THEIR KIZNA.
WHAT ABOUT KATSUHIRA AND THE OTHERS?
WE MUST NOT BE APART,
BECAUSE OUR HEARTS AND BODIES CAN BECOME ONE.

I THINK I UNDERSTAND NOW...


NICO-SAN, WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME FRIENDS?
BECAUSE... IT SEEMED LIKE BEING WITH FRIENDS WOULD BE FUN, AND REASSURING... IT JUST SEEMED WONDERFUL.

KACCHON
I THINK NORI-CHAN WANTED US TO SAVE HER.

SQUEEZE
YEAH... I THINK I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

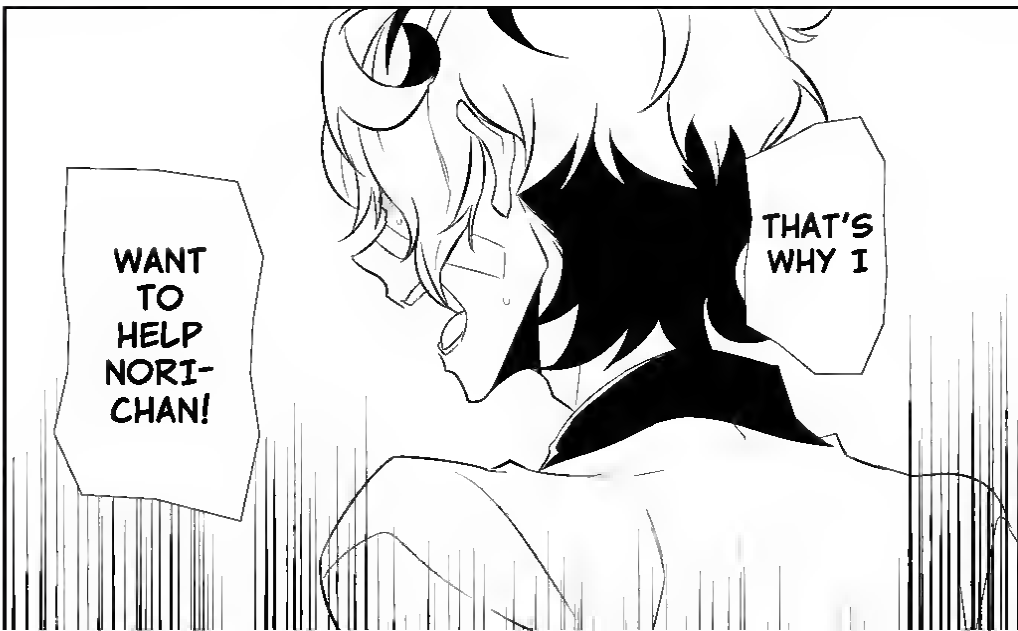
WHEN WE WERE ALL TOGETHER, A LOT OF STRANGE THINGS HAPPENED,
BUT I DIDN'T REALLY THINK MUCH ABOUT IT.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

TRUE. NORMALLY, IF STRANGE THINGS LIKE THAT KEPT HAPPENING, THERE'D PROBABLY BE MORE PANIC.
NOT REALLY. GOMORINS ARE WEAK.
WERE YOU SCARED?
THEN HOW DID YOU ALL FEEL?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LACK EMOTIONS.
THE REASON WE WERE OKAY IN THAT SITUATION...
I FIGURED OUT THE ANSWER.
...IS BECAUSE WE HAD ALREADY BECOME FRIENDS BY THEN.
HISOMU

BACK THEN, EVEN WHEN THINGS WERE ROUGH OR I WAS SCARED, I THINK EVERYTHING TURNED OUT FINE.
YET I HAD FORGOTTEN...
NO...
I HAD PUSHED THEM ALL ONTO NORI-CHAN...
ALL THIS TIME.
HONOKA-SAN,
YOU SAID THAT IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE TO OTHERS, YOU WOULD HAVE TO REVEAL YOURSELF TO THEM, RIGHT?
Y-YES...

BUT I DON'T THINK THAT MEANS WE SHOULD BE CONNECTED THROUGH A SYSTEM.
I WANT TO BE PROPERLY HURT.
OH, THIS IS WHAT...
THROB
ズキ
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO DO.
I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T FEEL ANYTHING.

THIS IS THE TRUE POWER OF KIZNA WE WERE SEARCHING FOR.



DASH
KACCHON?!
IF ONLY WE WERE BONDED WITH KATSUHIRA-KUN RIGHT NOW...
STEP
STEP
STEP
IF WE WERE BONDED? IS THAT REALLY NECESSARY FOR US RIGHT NOW?
HONOKA-CHAN.
WE ALREADY WENT THROUGH SO MUCH BECAUSE OF SONOZAKI-SAN.
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD... I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY BE ABLE TO CUT TIES WITH ALL OF YOU.

WELL, YOU CAN'T!
NICO...
KATSUHIRA-KUN SAID IT, TOO!
THUD THUD
WE'RE ALREADY FRIENDS!
THUD THUD
JUST GIVE IT UP ALREADY!
ADMIT IT!
OR I'LL HEADBUTT YOU!
?!
CRACK
OW...
NICO HONESTLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT SONOZAKI-SAN.
BUT IF KATSUHIRA-KUN...
IF MY FRIEND WANTS TO SAVE THE GIRL HE LIKES, NICO WANTS TO HELP HIM.
THAT'S ALL!

IT'S TRUE... WE MIGHT BE FRIENDS, JUST LIKE AGATA SAID.
IF YOU WEREN'T FRIENDS, COULD YOU SYMPATHIZE WITH THE GUY WHO MADE YOUR CRUSH CRY?
THAT'S NOT IT!
BUT I CAN'T LEAVE HIM ALONE, EITHER...
BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS?
OF COURSE, IT'S A LITTLE HARD FOR ME...
BUT KACCHON IS TRYING TO ACT ON HIS OWN,
AFTER PUTTING A LOT OF THOUGHT INTO THINGS. THAT MAKES ME HAPPY.

SO
IF KACCHON IS GOING TO CHANGE THAT BECAUSE OF SONOZAKI-SAN,
I WANT TO SAVE HER, TOO.

STARE...
じっ
WHY ME?
BECAUSE YOU WERE MORE AVERSE TO THE WORD "FRIENDS" THAN ANY OF US.

WE MUST NOT BE APART, BECAUSE OUR HEARTS AND BODIES CAN BECOME ONE.
I THINK NORI-CHAN WANTS TO RECREATE THAT PLACE.
ザワ
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
ザワ

YOU CANNOT LEAVE.
OUR SUGOMORI IS A HUGE EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY.
BECAUSE IT IS A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY GARDEN.

NORI-CHAN, THAT'S DANGEROUS!
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO STOP ME?
WERE THOSE DAYS IN THE LAB NOT HAPPY ONES FOR YOU, KATSUHIRA-KUN?
I WAS HAPPY.
WHILE I WAS CONNECTED TO YOU AND THE OTHERS, MY HEART WAS FULL...

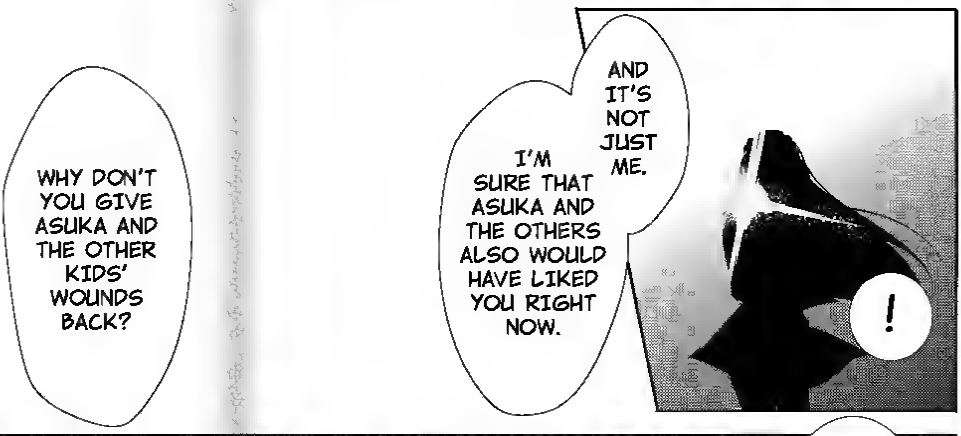
I WAS HAPPY TO HAVE EVERY-ONE'S PAIN.
IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WASN'T ALONE.
BECAUSE WE WERE ALL CONNECTED THROUGH THE KIZNA SYSTEM.
THAT'S NOT TRUE! THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
THEN WHAT WAS IT?
WHOOSH
HH!
UM...
N/
DON'T HESITATE THERE!

GASP
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WE WERE HERE?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE FRIENDS!
BECAUSE WE WERE FRIENDS?
IT'S BECAUSE WE SAW A COM-MOTION.
I SEE. SO FRIENDS AREN'T OMNIPO-TENT.
FRIENDS ARE SOY SAUCE! THE OMNIPOTENT SEASONING!
IT'S TRUE THAT IF WE DIDN'T HAVE THAT, WE'D HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON.
BUT JUST BECAUSE WE WERE CONNECTED THROUGH OUR WOUNDS DOESN'T MEAN THAT OUR HEARTS CONNECTED, TOO.
SO IT IS JUST AS I THOUGHT.
DID YOU ALL NOT BECOME FRIENDS BECAUSE OF THE KIZNA SYSTEM?

THE TRUTH IS, WE'RE NOT CONNECTED AT ALL NOW.
THEY'RE ANNOYING AND TROUBLE-SOME,
AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE THINKING.
IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, WHY DON'T YOU JUST CONNECT WITH THE KIZNA SYSTEM?
IT'S BECAUSE WE DON'T UNDER-STAND!
IT'S BECAUSE WE DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT WE WONDER WHAT THE OTHER IS THINKING,
AND TRY SO DESPERATELY TO UNDER-STAND EVERY WORD THEY SAY...
YOU END UP THINKING TOO MUCH ABOUT THE OTHER PERSON, AND BEING CLOSE TO THEM BECOMES PAINFUL, SO YOU TRY TO DISTANCE YOURSELF...
HONOKA-CHAN...

I BELIEVE YOU BECOME FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE BY DOING THAT OVER AND OVER,
AND THAT'S HOW I BECAME FRIENDS WITH THESE GUYS.
THAT'S AN EXCEPTION.
I WAS CERTAIN WE'D GATHERED DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE, BUT IT APPEARS THAT YOU HAD SOMETHING THAT ALLOWED YOU ALL TO COMMUNICATE TO BEGIN WITH.
THEN WHAT ABOUT KAC-CHON?!
EVEN THOUGH YOU PUT HIM THROUGH HELL,
HE STILL ENDED UP LIKING YOU, SONOZAKI-SAN!
IN REGARDS TO KATSUHIRA-KUN'S ROMANTIC FEELINGS TOWARDS ME, IT'S BECAUSE WE WERE ORIGINALLY BOUND WITH THE KIZNA SYSTEM

EVEN IF WE HADN'T BEEN CONNECTED THROUGH OUR KIZNA, I THINK I WOULD HAVE LIKED YOU ANYWAY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.


WHY DON'T YOU GIVE ASUKA AND THE OTHER KIDS' WOUNDS BACK?
I'M SURE THAT ASUKA AND THE OTHERS ALSO WOULD HAVE LIKED YOU RIGHT NOW.
AND IT'S NOT JUST ME.
!

IF WE'RE ABLE TO SHARE OUR WOUNDS AGAIN...
BUT IF WE CONTINUE THE EXPERIMENT...
IT'S NOT THAT I WANT TO.

EH?
WHY DO WE NEED TO SHARE THEM?
DON'T BE AFRAID. JUST LET GO OF EVERYONE'S WOUNDS.
IT'LL BE FINE.
CLANG
EVEN IF ALL OF THE WOUNDS INSIDE YOU DISAPPEAR, WE WON'T DISAPPEAR.
I DON'T... UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING...
I DON'T UNDER-STAND AT ALL.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND.
JUST STAY WITH ME
AND SLOWLY YOU'LL COME TO UNDER-STAND.
STAY... WITH YOU...

I WANT TO SHARE PAIN AND WORRIES WITH YOU.
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE KIZNA SYSTEM.
I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU AND PROPERLY THINK ABOUT THINGS...
CRACK
SO...
BUT IF I GIVE YOU BACK YOUR PAIN,
I'LL BE ALONE...
SO PLEASE,
GIVE ME BACK MY PAIN!

I WON'T LEAVE YOU.
I'M SURE
YOU LIKE ME, TOO, NORI-CHAN.
YOU LIKE EVERYONE.
I LIKE... EVERYONE...
PLEASE GIVE EVERYONE
BACK THEIR PAIN!
THROB

CRACK

ぐぉぉ！
いったーい

FLASH
SPLASH

HA
TSU
TWO
PP
JEEZ...
WHY ARE YOU GETTING SAVED BY SONOZAKI?!

!
KATSUHIRA-KUN, HOW DO YOU FEEL RIGHT NOW?
MY HEART IS POUND-ING.
MY CHEST STINGS WHERE WE COLLIDED FROM WHEN I CAUGHT YOU.
YOU'RE BRIGHT RED.
MY KNEE IS THROB-BING.
FUFUFU...
DOES IT FEEL GOOD?
SO IS THIS HOW IT FEELS TO BE HURT?
YOU'RE BLEEDING!
YES...

YES.

IT FEELS GOOD FOR ME, TOO.

BANG
BANG
BANG
IT'S NOW BEEN A WEEK SINCE AND, THANKFULLY, EVERYTHING SEEMS PEACEFUL.
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
WELL, THE ONLY FUSS THAT HAPPENED WAS THE POWER WENT OUT AND THE BRIDGE WENT UP.
THE MAYOR'S PROBABLY GOING TO BE BUSY.
WELL, WE...

WE JUST WANTED TO SEE THOSE SMILES.
THOSE KIDS ARE SLOWLY CHANGING, TOO.
THEY HAD FORGOTTEN THEIR PAIN FOR OVER TEN YEARS, SO THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO NORMAL LIVES IMMEDIATELY, BUT...
IT PISSES ME OFF, THOUGH.
THE THING THAT WE SPENT YEARS RESEARCHING AND COULDN'T SOLVE...
THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

ASUKA AND THE OTHERS BROUGHT US FLOWERS.
...WERE YOU THINKING JUST NOW?
WHAT...
I WAS THINKING
THAT YOU WERE CUTE, NORI-CHAN.

CLACK
ガチャ
HEY, WHY ARE YOU TWO FLIRTING?
HEY, WHA...
EVEN THOUGH I ACCEPT THAT YOU'RE DATING, THERE'S A THING CALLED MODERATION...
WELL, THAT'S RATHER STRAIGHT FORWARD.
NICE ONE, SONOZAKI-SAN.
かぁっ
BLUSH
I'M SURE WE WILL REMAIN IN A PURE RELATION-SHIP FOR A WHILE.
UNLESS KATSUHIRA-KUN PUSHES ME TO THE GROUND.

FLIP
OH, YEAH. HERE.
HEY! THE PURIKURA WE TOOK A WHILE BACK!
HERE, LOOK, SONOZAKI-SAN!
IT'S NOT LIKE IN REAL LIFE.
ALL OF YOUR EYES SEEM MUCH BIGGER,
AND YOU'RE ALL WHITER.
BUT YOU ALL SEEM VERY CLOSE,
AND THAT'S JUST LIKE IN REAL LIFE.
NEXT TIME,
WILL YOU COME WITH US, NORI-CHAN?

THE TRUE "BOND" THAT CONNECTED THE 8

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE SUPPORT!!
THE FINAL VOLUME OF THE COMICS IS SCHEDULED TO COME OUT ON 4/27!
PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO KAREGISHI ROJI-SENSEI'S NEXT PROJECT!!

END